

of the book itself) and then work backwards to progressively smaller units. After a discussion of the genres of wisdom in the Bible and the Ancient Near East, Father Murphy provides a crisp and clear discussion of six biblical books, punctuating the text with splendid bibliographies. A thirteen-page glossary to the genres discussed in the book completes the volume. This series has been fifteen years in the coming, and M.'s volume demonstrates that the wait was worthwhile. One warning: FOTL deals only with matters of structure and form; it lacks almost all other interpretive aids associated with commentaries. But FOTL makes clear why form criticism is the

great new exegetical fact of our century.

Encyclopedia of Biblical Theology. The Complete Sacramentum Verbi. Edited by Johannes B. Bauer. (Crossroad, \$32.50). Published in German in 1959, this series of 209 word studies by continental Roman Catholic scholars first appeared in English in 1970. While the bibliographies are now somewhat out of date, the reissue of this reference work in one volume instead of the original three keeps a modern classic alive. It contains solid biblical interpretation, which is often correlated to the concerns of systematic theology.

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